

Filed for intro on 02/25/2002

SENATE RESOLUTION 134
By Dixon

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Mr. Elliot Perry on his outstanding athletic career and his invaluable contributions to the City of Memphis.

WHEREAS, it is fitting for this General Assembly to recognize those outstanding individuals who excel in athletics, while also generously contributing to their communities; and

WHEREAS, Elliot Perry is one such noteworthy citizen; and

WHEREAS, the son of Ms. Bonnie Perry, Elliot was born on March 28, 1969 in Memphis Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Perry attended Memphis' Treadwell High School, where he averaged an astonishing 34.5 points per game during his senior year; he earned numerous awards, including the Tennessee State Player of the Year and McDonald's High School All-American Honors; and

WHEREAS, he continued his basketball career at the University of Memphis; Elliot Perry excelled as a Tiger and quickly became an integral part of the team's success; and

WHEREAS, as a freshmen, Elliot helped the University of Memphis achieve a record of 20 wins and 12 losses and a bid to the NCAA tournament; during his freshman season, Mr.

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Perry garnered numerous awards, including being named Metro Conference Freshman of the Year and being recognized by *Sport Magazine* as the top rated freshman point guard in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Elliot Perry capped off his remarkable career at Memphis with a stellar senior season; in his senior season, he led the Metro Conference in scoring, averaging 20.8 points per game, and steals with 85; Mr. Perry was also named First Team All-Metro Conference and finished second in the Metro Conference Player of the Year balloting; and

WHEREAS, Elliot Perry's senior season was filled with unparalleled heroics in clutch situations, as he hit game-winning buzzer shots against Florida State University and the University of Miami. In a 42-point effort, Mr. Perry hit a three-pointer at the buzzer to send a game against East Tennessee State University into overtime; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Perry is the Metro Conference's all-time leader in steals with 304 and is one of only ten players in NCAA history to gather as many 300 steals; he holds University of Memphis records in several categories, including three pointers made with 143 and steals (304); and

WHEREAS, Mr. Perry is second all-time in scoring at Memphis with 2,209 points and ranks in the top ten in 29 statistical categories; Elliot was also proficient at distributing the basketball to his teammates, collecting 546 assists; and

WHEREAS, for his outstanding efforts, the University of Memphis honored Elliot Perry by retiring his number 34 jersey; and

WHEREAS, after his collegiate basketball career had ended, Perry was selected as the 37th overall player in the 1991 NBA draft by the Los Angeles Clippers; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Perry has enjoyed an excellent career in the NBA, playing for the Milwaukee Bucks, New Jersey Nets, Phoenix Suns, and most recently, the Memphis Grizzlies; and

WHEREAS, an active member of the Memphis community, Elliot Perry generously contributes his time and efforts to numerous organizations and community activities involving the young people of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, in February of 2001, Mr. Perry graciously permitted the Joysmith Gallery of Memphis to display many of the works in his personal collection of major African American artists in an exhibit presented as *The Elliot Perry Collection* in honor of Black History Month. This generous contribution helped educated the Memphis community about the significant contributions made by African American artists to American art and culture; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Elliot Perry is a man of outstanding character and integrity. Aside from his remarkable success as an athlete, Mr. Perry remains true to the community in which he was raised through his many contributions to the City of Memphis and the people of the State of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we honor and commend Mr. Elliot Perry for his outstanding athletic career and his invaluable contributions to the City of Memphis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.